

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

The last FCC rules allowing consolidation and domination of news sources, as judged by the court, were outrageous, a direct attack on democracy, and a partisan attack on the free flow of information to the public. Those actions by fascist forces (especially in the GOP) attempting to consolidate power in the hands of corporations and the super-rich are unconscionable. FCC members who voted for the latest rules overturned by the court should immediately resign for their partisan attack on democracy, itself.